

Information for File #MVP-2005-611-JKA

Applicant: Brown County

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Primary County: Brown

Section: 26 and 27

Township: 110N

Range: 31W

Information Complete On: March 4, 2005

Posting Expires On: April 8, 2005

Authorization Type: MN-LOP-D

Project

PROJECT DESCRIPTION AND PURPOSE: The applicant has applied for a Department of the Army permit to discharge fill material into three Section 404 jurisdictional wetlands and two Section 404 jurisdictional intermittent streams to facilitate reconstruction of about 3.5 miles of CSAH 27 and construction of about 2 miles of new CSAH 27 alignment from CSAH 11 to North Highland Avenue in New Ulm, Minnesota. The alignment runs through the middle of sections 29, 28, 27, 26, and 25 of T. 110N., R. 31W. (Milford Township) and Section 30 of T. 110N., R. 30W. (Cottonwood North Township). The purpose of the reconstruction work would be to widen each driving lane one foot, widen the shoulder to eight feet, and flatten the inslope to a four horizontal to one vertical slope. The reconstruction would bring the roadway into compliance with current safety standards. The reconstruction work would require an additional 10 feet of right of way on each side of the road. The purpose of the new alignment would be to allow CSAH 27 to pass south of a proposed New Ulm Airport expansion. The new alignment would require a 120-foot right of way, and it would have the same cross section as the reconstructed portion. This final cross section is a 24-foot bituminous driving surface with an eight-foot shoulder, four to one inslopes and a six to eight foot ditch bottom. In New Ulm there would be an urban design with curb and gutter. The urban section is estimated to be 1000 feet long. A new CSAH 12 connection from the old CSAH 27 alignment to the new CSAH 27 alignment would be constructed in Section 25 just west of the proposed New Ulm Airport expansion.

NAME, AREA AND TYPES OF WATERS (INCLUDING WETLANDS) SUBJECT TO LOSS: The applicant has proposed to discharge fill material into a total of 10,300 square feet (0.24 acre) of three seasonally flooded basins (Type 1 wetlands) and 4,840 square feet (0.11 acre) of intermittent stream bed at two locations. The three wetlands are adjacent to unnamed tributaries to the Cottonwood River, which is a tributary to the Minnesota River, which is a navigable water of the U.S. The two intermittent streams are

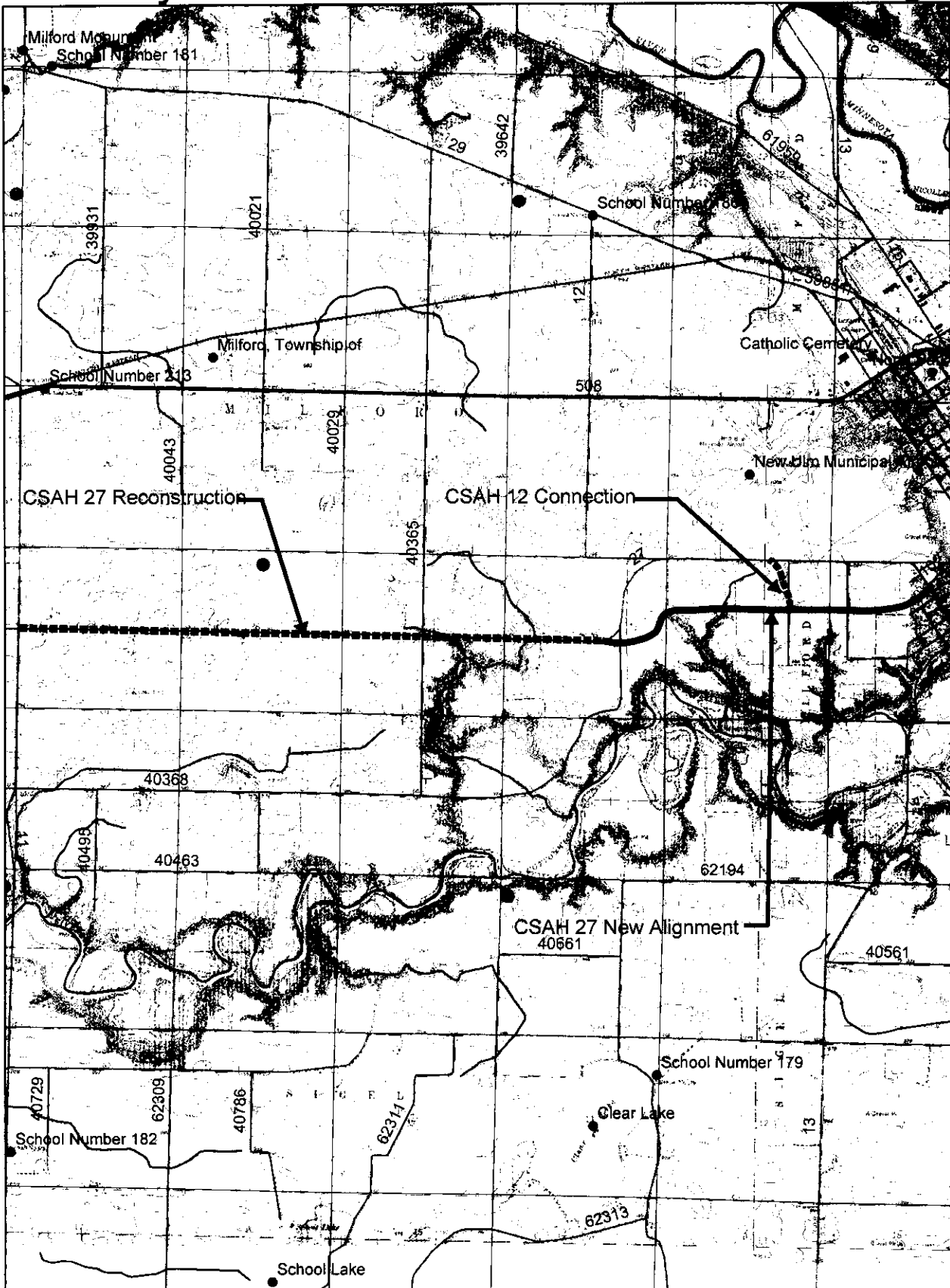
tributaries to the Cottonwood River, which is a tributary to the Minnesota River, which is a navigable water of the U.S. The total impact to waters of the U.S. is 15, 140 square feet (0.35 acre).

ALTERNATIVES CONSIDERED: In addition to the Proposed alternative, the applicant considered a No Build alternative and Alternative Route alternatives. The No Build alternative would avoid all wetland impacts, but would not bring the roadway up to current safety standards and would be in conflict with the proposed expansion of the New Ulm Airport. Since the proposed reconstruction would primarily take place within the existing right of way of CSAH 27, Alternative Route alternatives would likely have as much, or greater, impact to waters of the U.S. as the Proposed alternative. Given the existing location of CSAH 27, the proposed Highland Avenue connecting point in New Ulm, and the location of the proposed New Ulm Airport expansion, the proposed route for the approximately 2-mile new CSAH 27 alignment provides an efficient route with only one water of the U.S. impact, an intermittent stream crossing requiring the discharge of fill material into 4,040 square feet (0.09 acre) of a water of the U.S.

COMPENSATORY MITIGATION: To mitigate for impacts to waters of the U.S., the applicant has proposed to purchase 0.35 acre of wetland credits through the BWSR Road Replacement Program.

Drawings See attached, below.

Brown County CSAH 27 Reconstruction and Realignment

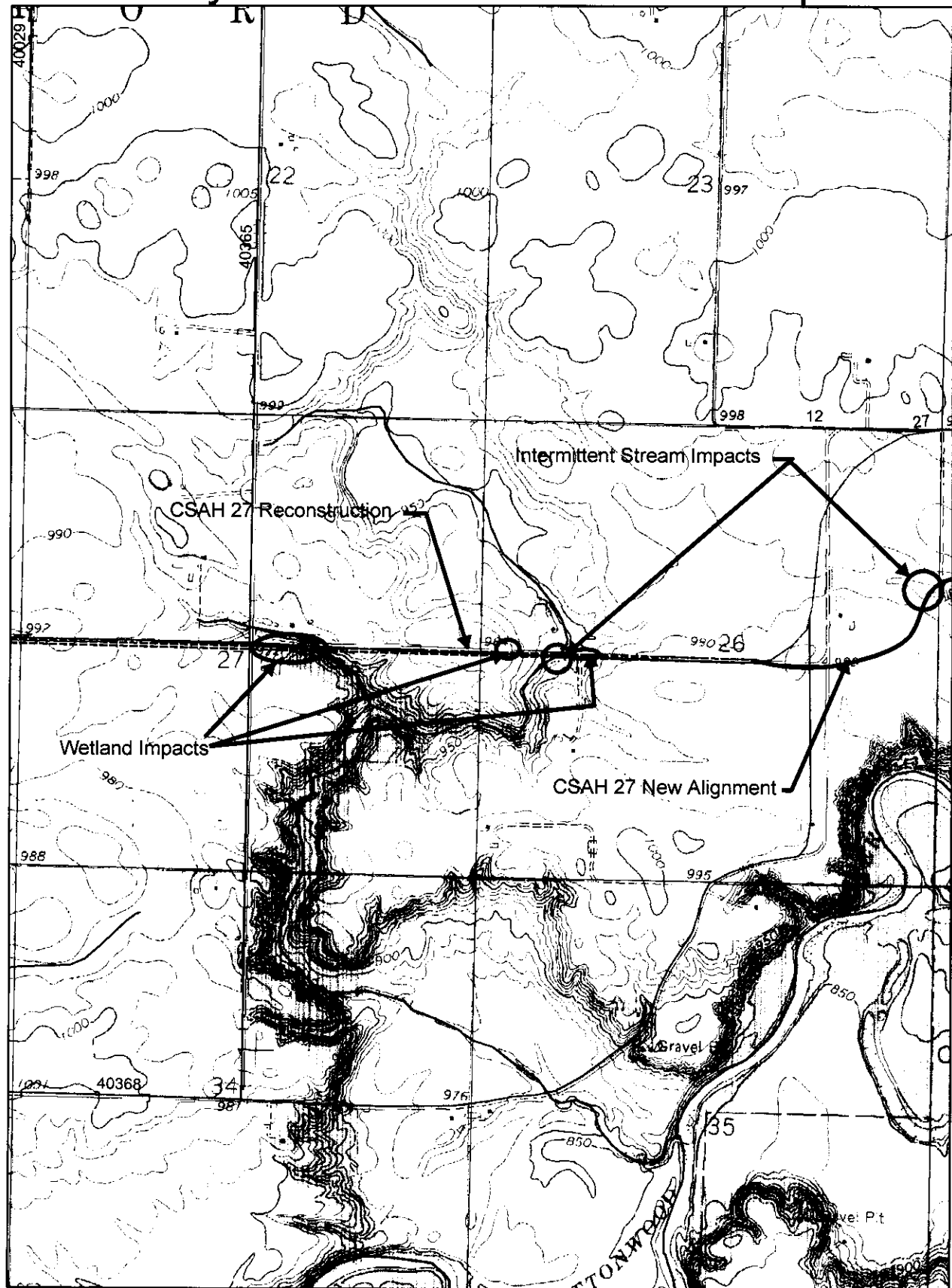


Sec. 25, 26, 27, 28, and 29, T. 110N., R. 31W., and Sec. 30, T. 110N., R. 30W., Brown County, MN

0 0.5 1 Miles



Brown County CSAH 27 Waters of U.S. Impact Areas



Sec. 26 and 27, T. 110N., R. 31W., Brown County, MN

0 0.5 1 Miles



C.S.A.H. 27 PROPOSED TYPICAL SECTION

